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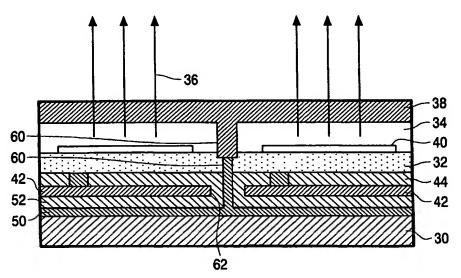
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(54) Title: ELECTROLUMINESCENT DISPLAY DEVICES



(57) Abstract: In an active matrix electroluminescent display device having an array of pixels, a drive transistor (22) and an electroluminescent display element (2) in each pixel are connected in series between a power line (26) for supplying or drawing a controllable current to or from the display element and a common potential line. The power line (26) and the common potential line each comprise a sheet electrode shared between all pixels of the array. In this arrangement, sheet electrodes are used both for the current supply to the EL display element and the current sink. This reduces considerably the line resistance.



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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 H01L51/52 H058 H05B33/28 H05B33/26 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) H01L H05B Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data, INSPEC, IBM-TDB C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category ° Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. A EP 0 891 122 A (TDK CORP) 1-20 13 January 1999 (1999-01-13) column 6, line 8 - line 37; figures 9,10 PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN A 1-20 vol. 2002, no. 09, 4 September 2002 (2002-09-04) & JP 2002 156633 A (STANLEY ELECTRIC CO LTD), 31 May 2002 (2002-05-31) abstract; figure 1 EP 1 107 335 A (TDK CORP) Α 1 - 2013 June 2001 (2001-06-13) paragraph '0036! - paragraph '0038!; figures 1,2 paragraph '0039! - paragraph '0040!; figures 3,4 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention filing date cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another document of particular relevance; the claimed invention citation or other special reason (as specified) cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or document is combined with one or more other such docu-ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 11 December 2003 19/12/2003 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016 Agne, M

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